

The food was universally acclaimed as delicious, including hamburgers, hot dogs, and Noah Blake apple cider pancakes complete with real Maple syrup. The **Bischoff family** rose to the occasion by manning the food, beverage, and dessert tables (as well as pumpkin sales and providing official photographer **Grace** - her work appears on this page) with the able assistance of **Barb Russ' mother**. **Lia Brassord** baked homemade Noah Blake Molasses cookies which were *phenomenal*, and **Elissa Potts** was kind enough to come with a carload of *delicious* apple pies from her restaurant, Kent's own **Fife N Drum**. **Elissa** is a supporter of the museum and the friend's group and was so generous to devote her time and 25% of the pie sale to the friends. **Carl Dill** set out an artistic and informative display on early New England stone walls (and filled an entire class on how to build a dry-laid stone wall in minutes), and **Dan Cain** and his brother **Bill** brought along a vintage and beautifully restored Farmall Cub tractor, antique cider press and a few bushels of apples to provide visitors with an authentic experience pressing apples into cider. I don't know who was having more fun - **Dan**, **Bill**, or the kids that continually swarmed around them to get a look at the process! Speaking of kids, many turned out for **Bob Coppola's** activities, and to take advantage of the children's area, which was manned by a very helpful **Jared Kapsiak** and included a bean bag toss, rope ring toss, horseshoes, jump rope, croquet and a scavenger hunt. Next to **Jared**, **Bob**, and the kids, **Wendy Kennedy** and her son **Patrick** came with the most adorable Swiss calf (appropriately named Sweetie Pie) anyone has seen for some time and a demonstration cow that the kids (and I saw some adults) could try to "milk".

I spent as much time as I could walking about and meeting with people - I became re-acquainted with **Scott Sheldon**, who also brought along some rare examples of Eric Sloane books for me to see, **Craig Marcin** brought along a WWII era aviation illustration by Sloane for me to examine (and we had time to talk about one of our favorite events - the Lewisburg Arts Festival), I met **Izaak Davis** for the first time (his name comes from Noah's father in Eric Sloane's *Diary of An Early American Boy*) and enjoyed talking with him, and **Amy Gillenson** - she was so kind to take me into the museum to view her family's collection of Eric Sloane pen and ink illustrations from Eric's last book *Eighty: An American Souvenir*, which her father published. **Amy** is extremely knowledgeable and an absolute pleasure to speak with. **Michael Bird** came equipped with his video equipment (he is a professional videographer and very generously donated his time and talents to produce both still photographs of the event and a professional video presentation) and brought his good friend **Barbara Bourgeois** to volunteer. **Karin Peterson**, Museum Director for all of Connecticut's state-owned museum, was on hand and wonderfully supportive of, and helpful to, the entire endeavor.

It was an absolutely fabulous day that was enjoyed by everyone - attendees, demonstrators, and volunteers. Much, much help was given (especially at the end where it was really, really appreciated) by **James Purtle**, **Linda Hall** and her incredibly helpful son **Gage**, and **Peter** and **Barb Russ**. Thank you to everyone who came - and a special thank you to all of our new members and volunteers - it is through your efforts and generosity that the legacy of Eric Sloane is being not only kept alive, but shared with a new generation who can learn so much of value from this national treasure.

More scenes from the October 6, 2012, Eric Sloane Harvest Party held on the grounds of the Eric Sloane Museum.

